

Abstract

A media storage system including an enclosure having a user-accessible surface comprises an apparatus for retrieving data cartridge-related information from a memory unit mounted to a data cartridge in relationship to a surface of the housing of the cartridge. The apparatus comprises a registration area on the user-accessible surface of the enclosure, the registration area being configured to be engaged by the surface of the data cartridge housing in registration with the registration area. The apparatus further comprises a reader mounted to the media storage system for receiving from the memory unit a signal containing the data cartridge-related information when the surface of the data cartridge housing is held in engagement with the registration area. Also disclosed is a method comprising manually positioning the data cartridge so as to hold the surface of the data cartridge in registered engagement with a registration area on the user-accessible surface of the media storage system, and transferring the information between the IC memory unit and the IC memory unit reader.